

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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Info

FROM: BONN

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 1218, OCTOBER 25, 6 PM

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 1218, INFORMATION BERLIN 301, LONDON 299,
BRUSSELS 57, PARIS 284, THE HAGUE 38.

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STATE PASS DEFENSE

USIA

NSC

PARIS ALSO FOR USRO, STOESSEL AND MCGUIRE

INR

CIA

FEDERAL PRESS CHIEF VON HASE OCT 24 SUMMARIZED VIEWS ON CUBAN
SITUATION EMERGING FROM CHANCELLOR'S MEETING WITH GROUP OF
CABINET MINISTERS AS FOLLOWS:

NSA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

JUS

TRSY

RMR

"BY BUILDING ROCKET BASES IN CUBA SOVIET GOVT HAS CHANGED STATUS
QUO IN DANGEROUS FASHION. IT HAS DONE THIS AT A PERIOD WHEN
ALL EFFORTS WERE BEING DIRECTED TOWARD RELAXATION OF TENSION
AND STRENGTHENING OF WORLD PEACE.

"NEW SITUATION BROUGHT ABOUT BY SOVIET ACTION SHOWS VALUE OF
WESTERN ALLIANCE WHICH GUARANTEES OUR COMMON AND INDIVISIBLE
SECURITY.

"FEDERAL GOVT, TOGETHER WITH ALLIES AND FREE POWERS, IS ENDEA-
VORING TO PROMOTE EFFORTS WHICH MIGHT OVERCOME CRISIS AND DO
AWAY WITH CAUSES OF TENSION. FEDERAL GOVT NEVERTHELESS
OBLIGATED AT APPROPRIATE TIME TO TAKE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.
IT COUNTS ON CALM COOPERATION OF POPULATION.

"FEDERAL GOVT KNOWS THAT IT IS AT ONE WITH GERMAN NATION IN
ITS CONFIDENCE THAT RESPONSIBLE STATESMEN WILL SUCCEED IN THEIR
EFFORTS TO PROTECT FREEDOM AND TO SAFEGUARD PEACE."

DEFMIN
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-2- 1218, OCTOBER 25, 6 PM, FROM BONN

DEFMIN STRAUSS TOLD CHIEF MAAG OCT 25 THAT NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL UNANIMOUS IN AGREEING THAT ACTIONS OF USG SHOULD RECEIVE FULL BACKING. STRAUSS FELT THAT FULL MORAL SUPPORT SHOULD BE GIVEN AND THAT FRG SHOULD GO TO ANY LENGTH, EVEN IF IT ENTAILED GREATEST POSSIBLE DANGER. STRAUSS THOUGHT US ACTION LONG OVERDUE; IF US FAILED TAKE CARE OF AGGRESSION ON HER DOORSTEP SHE WOULD CERTAINLY BE FAR LESS CAPABLE AND WILLING DEAL WITH AGGRESSION IN OTHER PLACES. THIS MAY BE ONE OF RARE HOURS WHEN PROPER ACTION COULD ACHIEVE BENEFICIAL RESULTS BEYOND EXPECTATIONS.

SPD BUNDESTAG WHIP, KARL MOMMER TOLD EMBASSY HE HAD HEARD NO CRITICISM FROM SPD POLITICIANS OF US ACTION OR OF BRANDT AND ERLER STATEMENTS (EMBTELS 1203; AND 1213). HE THOUGHT IT SIGNIFICANT THAT EVEN THOSE LABOR REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAD SPOKEN SO STRONGLY YESTERDAY AGAINST GOVT'S EMERGENCY LEGISLATION AT NATIONAL CONVENTION OF GERMAN TRADE UNIONS, HAD NOT BROUGHT CUBAN ISSUE INTO DISCUSSION. MOMMER THOUGHT THAT THEY WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE DONE SO IF THEY WERE STRONGLY CRITICAL THEMSELVES OR FELT THAT CRITICISM WOULD FIND RESPONSIVE ECHO. MOMMER WONDERED WHAT REASONS HAD LED US GOVT TO FAVOR POLICY OF QUARANTINE RATHER THAN TAKING POSSESSION OF ROCKET BASES IN CUBA, SINCE LATTER PROBLEM WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE SOLVED. MOMMER IS AMONG THOSE IN SPD WHO BELIEVE THAT PROBABLE SOVIET REACTION TO CUBA IS TO LEAVE BERLIN RELATIVELY QUIET AT PRESENT.

DOWLING

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